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Agenda item 8

DRAFT REPORT

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Addendum

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998-1999 (item 4 (a))

Section 15. International drug control

1. At its 16th meeting, on 20 June 1997, the Committee considered section 15, International drug control, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999.

Discussion

2. Many delegations expressed their support for the programme and noted the priority attached to it in the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

3. Many delegations stressed the importance of the role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in providing leadership to agencies in the United Nations system for the further development of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control, the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its regional subsidiary bodies, and that of the International Narcotics Control Board. A number of delegations considered that the activities of the International Narcotics Control Board and of the meetings of the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies should be strengthened.

4. Some delegations emphasized the transnational nature of the drug control problem. Several delegations also emphasized the importance of coordination with the crime control programme, in particular as regards money laundering.

5. A number of delegations expressed concern that the budget proposals contained no reference to the problems of transit countries; others noted the absence of reference to consumers and the absence of activities related to the issue of demand reduction. The Secretariat indicated that activities related to demand reduction and to the problems of transit States were included under subprogramme 3, Prevention and reduction of drug abuse, elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking. Activities related to illicit drug trafficking were intended to cover trafficking from the point of origin of drugs to the point of consumption. Examples of activities funded by the Fund for the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to assist transit States were provided, including in particular the establishment of field offices in the Caribbean and Central Asian regions. It was reiterated that the Programme would continue to implement activities to assist transit States. One delegation referred to supplies by some industrialized countries of technologies and reagents (reactives) used by drug producers. Another delegation stressed the importance of activities related to alternative development.

6. Some delegations expressed strong support for the special session of the General Assembly on international drug control to be held in 1998 and expressed concern at the lack of importance given to the question in the budget section. Some stressed the need to ensure the availability of financial resources for activities in preparation for the special session and for the implementation of the activities to be carried out as a result of the outcome of the special session.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it approve the programme narrative of section 15, International drug control, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999, subject to further consideration as stated in paragraph 35 of the introduction and with the following modifications:

(a) In paragraph 15.8, the words "and help to set the agenda for international drug control for the following decade" should be deleted;

(b) After paragraph 15.8, the following paragraph should be added:

"The Programme will provide services to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the preparatory body of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the combat against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, to be held in June 1998";

(c) After old paragraph 15.12, the following paragraph should be added:

"Five days at the 1998 session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs will be devoted to the preparation of the special session of the General Assembly

devoted to the combat against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities";

(d) In old paragraph 15.18 (a) (i), the words "Prepare for and participate in the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council" should be deleted and the words "on drug control" should be replaced by the words "devoted to the combat against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities";

(e) In old paragraph 15.18 (a) (ii), a new subparagraph should be added to read: "c. Pertinent documents for the preparatory process of the special session of the General Assembly";

(f) After old paragraph 15.18 (c), a new subparagraph (d) should be added to read: "The Programme will compile the recommendations presented to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs by organs, organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations, as well as by multilateral development banks, as the preparatory body of the special session on the issues to be addressed by the special session";

(g) In old paragraph 15.28 (a) (ii) a, the words "documentation for the preparatory process of the special session" should be added;

(h) In old paragraph 15.28 (b) (iii), the words "public relations material to promote the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the combat against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities" should be added;

(i) In old paragraph 15.36, the full name of the special session of the General Assembly should be inserted;

(j) In old paragraph 15.37 (a) (ii), between a and b, the following should be inserted: "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the preparatory body of the special session devoted to the combat against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, containing the recommendations for the special session";

(k) In old paragraph 15.37 (a) (ii) c, the word "and" before the word "four" should be deleted and the following words should be added at the end of the paragraph: "and documents on possible results of the special session of the General Assembly, in particular with possible measures to strengthen the implementation of the international drug conventions";

(l) In old paragraph 15.42, after the words "will focus" the following words should be added: "in 1998, on the preparation of a draft of a declaration of the United Nations on the principles for the reduction of the demand, which could be approved at the special session of the General Assembly in June 1998. Furthermore, activities will focus".